



**BREN Coordinating Team Meeting minutes
November 8, 2016, 9:00 a.m.
Ecosystem Sciences' office**

Next meeting – January 10, 2017, location TBD

Present: Tamsen Binggeli, Tim Breuer, Whitney Byrd, Kati Carberry, Tom Chelstrom, Mike Dimmick, Megan Dixon, Mike Homza, Christy Meyer, Liz Paul, Derek Risso, Julie Scanlin, Teri Murrison and Chris Banks (Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission)

Not present: Phil Bandy, Bill Carr, and Becky Yzaguirre

9:05 Welcome and agenda review

- July minutes approved by consensus
- Chel provided corrections to the September minutes. September minutes conditionally approved by consensus.

9:10 Guest Speakers, Teri Murrison and Chris Banks, Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission

- Both Teri and Chris have extensive backgrounds working with the public on water and land resource issues.
- The Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission supports voluntary conservation – give landowners the tools to do the right thing.
- Since Teri joined the Commission, they have worked hard to build relationships with stakeholders, legislative districts and governor's office.
- They have made big strides and this year the Governor approved their budget.
- Chris Banks was hired to develop relationships with groups like BREN, to match resources, find common goals and increase capacity.
- Chris shared a video on the Whiskey Creek Reclamation Project in southeastern Idaho in which he worked as the Water Quality Resource Conservationist.
- The Whiskey Creek Project involved for daylighting the creek that had been placed in a culvert and removing a barn that was built over the top. It also involved providing alternate water sources for cattle and manure management systems. Water Quality has improved but the creek is still on the 303(d) list. Chris notes that it is difficult to get creeks unlisted in Idaho.

- A new project further downstream may reconnect Bonneville cutthroat trout to spawning habitat in Whiskey Creek.
- Their most recent grant is for a project near Lava Hot Springs to minimize erosion through improvements to the trail system and access points.
- They also have a water quality project in Pebble Creek, the largest tributary to the Portneuf River, to improve spawning habitat for Yellowstone cutthroat trout.
- It took 10 years to get the private landowner on board. It is important to have landowners invested in the project via sweat equity or cash – sense of ownership with the project.
- This project also involved numerous groups (land trusts; cities of Pocatello, Lava; Conservation Districts; landowners) and funding sources (319 program, mitigation funds from private companies, and private foundations).
- Look for non-traditional partners.

9:40 Elect Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer for 2016-17 term

- Tamsen presented the duties of the officer roles:
 - The Chair will ensure meeting dates/times/places are determined and publicized, meeting agendas are prepared and published and meetings are facilitated. The Chair will lead the Team to accomplish its work and be willing to represent BREN.
 - The Vice-Chair will assist the Chair and act as Chair in their absence of the Chair.
 - The Secretary/Treasurer will make sure Team meetings are noticed at least 2 weeks in advance and that Team agendas and minutes are posted on the website within 2 weeks of the meeting. In the event BREN collects or distributes money, the Secretary/Treasurer will keep records and report to the Coordinating Team.
- Secretary/Treasurer - Whitney Byrd is willing to serve.
- Vice Chair - Mike Homza is willing to serve
- Chair - Kati Carberry is willing to serve
- Chel moved to approve the officers, Julie seconded. Officers approved by consensus.
- The Team feels that Liz should have a title that recognizes her for BREN. Liz will come up with an appropriate title. Tamsen motions to approve, Mike seconds, Approved by consensus.

9:50 Create 2017 Work Plan Committee

- Kati is leading the 2017 Work Plan Committee that will set goals and timelines for the next year. The final plans will be discussed and approved at the January meeting.
- Recruits for Committee: Megan Dixon, Mike Homza, Tamsen Binggeli, Liz Paul, and Christy Meyer

10:00 Adopt final Eagle Comp Plan recommendations

- Tamsen presented the draft Eagle Comp Plan recommendations that were put together by Phil Bandy
- The recommendations were compiled based on feedback from the Coordinating Team over the past 2 meetings.
- Since Phil could not make the meeting, Tamsen will email out the Word document for the Team to edit.
- Chel offered several edits and recommendations for the recreation section and will email these out to the Team for review.
- Tim will write up recommendations for better management of common/open space in development
- Chel also noted that after a review of the City of Boise's ordinances, there is no legal way to prevent someone from motorized recreation in most of the Boise River. A non-motorized ordinance should be front and center in our recommendations to the City of Eagle.

10:10 CT Speaker, Mike Dimmick on Flood Control District project ideas

- Mike Dimmick is the Project Manager for Flood Control District #10
- The FCD recently completed their 5-year strategic plan and the FCD is interested in investing in projects on the Boise River.
- Before submitting for grants, it has become clear that they need more information to guide where and what kinds of project should be implemented.
- They have hired Dr. Daniele Tonina from the University of Idaho to perform modeling in their lab to determine the high risk areas for flooding, and to better understand flows and gravel recruitment.
- Glenwood Bridge to Eagle Island is an area of focus – there is a lot of development as well as 17 irrigation diversions throughout that reach.
- FCD also hired Karl Gebhardt to perform 2D flow modeling.
- The BREN Enhancement Plan has been used to inform project ideas; BREN could partner on grant and provide outreach in the future.

10:30 U.S. BOR WaterSmart Grant Phase II – discussion of criteria and project ideas

- Phase 1 funding was used to write our Enhancement Plan, now Phase 2 funding has become available.
- The draft criteria were released in September and BREN provided feedback in October. The final criteria will be posted in December.
- This involves implementation of projects that are supported by our Enhancement Plan.
- A funding match is required - 50 % - it can be in-kind or cash; we don't know yet if it can be federal match. We also don't know if matching funds can be for mitigation or to meet other requirements (i.e. NPDES permits)

- We have set the date to hold a workshop on December 6 to bring stakeholders to discuss project ideas. The short time frame will likely require projects that are shovel ready. It could be a big project or portfolio of projects.
- Ultimately the Coordinating Team will have to vote to determine which project we want to partner on.
- Project/Partner ideas:
 - City of Caldwell
 - City of Star – Star park and ramp remodel
 - Invasive weed removal
 - Marianne Williams Park – Right now is riprap and denuded river bank
 - Whitewater Park - habitat enhancement and upstream storm water
 - Derek has some ideas of some people to ask to come to the mtg
 - Kati - IDEQ 4b justification may have an outreach component that BREN could partner on
- We need to invite people to come to the workshop. Ideas:
 - FCD (Mike D.)
 - Land Trust of the Treasure Valley (Tim B.)
 - Rob Tiedemann, Idaho Watershed Solutions (already invited)
 - Scott Koberg Ada County (Tamsen to contact)
 - Joe Kozfkay, IDFG (Kati to contact)
 - Cindy Bushe, Boise WaterShed (Julie to contact)
 - City of Boise (Kati to Contact)
 - Eagle Island State Park - Park manager
 - City of Caldwell (Liz)
 - Idaho Power
 - Harris Ranch (Derek)
 - Liz will bring this up at the Lower Boise Watershed Council meeting on Thursday

11:00 End-of-year Review of Accomplishments

- Kati Carberry gave a power point presentation on 2016 BREN Accomplishments
- We do good work!
- Kati will email it out for edits and then will post it on the website.

11:15 Member and public comment time

- Chel is providing an overview of the Boise River Water Trail on Wednesday Dec 7th at 7pm at the Meridian Public Library
- Megan will be in Stanley in January and therefore can't come to January meeting. She is involved in farmland preservation discussions and there is speaker series coming in spring 2017 with COMPASS and Idaho Smart Growth. Megan to write a blog for the website on farmland preservation
- Mike will write up a memo to the City of Boise providing recommendations on the Whitewater Park and will send them out to the CT for review.